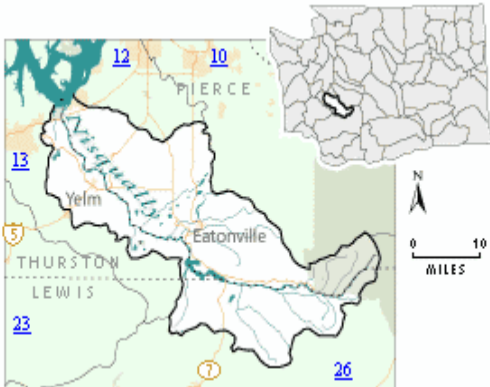


## Nisqually Basin - WRIA #11

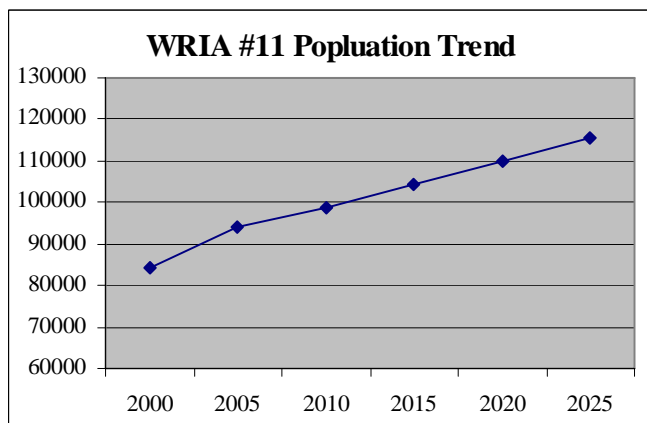


### Watershed Description

**WRIA #11** encompasses nearly 491,258 acres. The headwaters start at the Nisqually Glacier on Mount Rainier and empty into Puget Sound at the Nisqually Wildlife Refuge. There are several U-shaped glaciated valleys and prairies. Medium gradient rivers and streams tend to nearly level to rolling glacial outwash and till plains. Surface material is deep well-drained gravelly loam, gravelly sandy loam, and clays. Potential natural vegetation is western hemlock, western red cedar, Douglas-fir and some Garry oak. The mean low/high temperatures are 33/46° in winter and 47/78° in summer.

### Population

There are approximately 89,142 people living in the Nisqually Basin. The primary population centers are Eatonville, Yelm, and Roy. The majority of people live in unincorporated areas. The population graph reflects the combined projected population of those counties located within the watershed (Office of Financial Management population projections).



Counties	% of basin
Pierce	58%
Lewis	25%
Thurston	17%

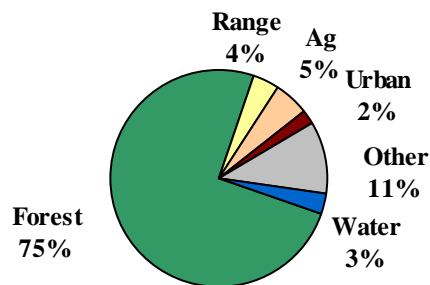
Tribal Reservation Lands in WRIA #11
Nisqually Tribe

**Land ownership** for WRIA #11 includes federal, state, local, tribal and private lands. Data was derived from the Public Lands Survey by Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Land Ownership	Acres	Proportion
Federal	145,657	29.6%
State	64,137	13.0%
Local	1,140	0.2%
Tribal	1,605	0.3%
Private	278,717	56.7%

**Land use** in the Nisqually Basin is mainly forestry, agriculture and range related uses. The general type of known land-use activities<sup>1</sup> within the watershed is graphed according to the percentage of its occurrence.

#### Land Use in the Nisqually Basin




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<sup>1</sup> Category "other" may include perennial ice/snow, bare rock/sand/clay, quarries/strip mines/gravel pits, transitional, barren, and/or wetland areas.

**The primary towns and cities in WRIA #11 include** Eatonville, Roy, Dupont, Yelm, and the Fort Lewis Military Reservation.

### **Legislative and Congressional Districts**

To determine your region's legislative or congressional district, see:

<http://www1.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

To determine **Latitude/Longitude coordinates**, see:

<http://www.topozone.com/>

(Make sure you set the button on the bottom of the page to D/M/S - hold the cursor over a spot on the map and the coordinates show at the bottom of the screen.)

Several federal programs refer to watersheds according to their Hydrological Unit Code (HUC). To learn more about your watershed and determine which **HUC** your town or county is located in, see:

<http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/>

## **Water Quality**

### **Water Quality Assessment**

The statewide Water Quality Assessment categorizes waterbody segments that have water quality data available. The Simple Query Tool and interactive mapping tool allow you to search for specific categories, waterbodies, pollutant parameters and other information, in whatever combination you choose. **WRIA #11** has twenty-one (21) known Category 5 (impaired) water bodies.

To view the Water Quality Assessment, use the Simple Query Tool.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wats/WATSOBEHome.asp>

To view the Water Quality Assessment by Category, choose the Category (1 – 5) you are interested in from the drop down box. To view it by Water Resource Inventory Resource Area (WRIA), choose the WRIA number you are interested in from the drop down box.

Use the Interactive Mapping Tool to see a graphic representation of the Water Quality Assessment. This is a Geographic Information System (GIS) application that helps you find waters you are interested in and information about problems in that water body.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wgawa/viewer.htm>

## **Domestic Water Supply**

No significant use of surface water sources. For further information regarding water supplies, see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/default.htm>

## Salmonid Stock Status

Good water quality is important to help salmon survive and thrive. To find out which salmon species are listed as threatened or endangered in a region, see:

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/gsro/regions/map.htm>

## Commercial and Recreational Shellfish Growing Areas

**Commercial shellfish** growing areas are classified by the Washington State Department of Health as either: *Approved*, *Conditionally Approved*, *Restricted*, or *Prohibited*.

For the most up-to-date information about shellfish area designations, see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/grow.htm>

**Recreational shellfish** closures are determined by the Department of Health and local health jurisdiction; for information contact your county or health district or see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/local.htm>

## TMDLs and Other Watershed-Based Plans

For information about Total Maximum Daily Loads (**TMDLs**) in your area, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/>

To learn more about **watershed planning** in Washington State, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/watershed/index.html>

For **funding applicants**, other useful links can be found at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/links.html>